

## **National and local access forums annual joint meeting**

### **Purpose**

1. This paper presents an outline draft programme for this year's annual joint meeting of the national and local access forums.

### **Action**

2. **Members are invited to comment on the proposed programme and consider, in broad terms, where this year's event should take place.**

### **Background**

3. Previous discussion at several NAF and local access forum meetings, and at last year's annual joint meeting, has considered the scope for improving communication between the national and local bodies – and various changes have been introduced with the aim of promoting information flow in both directions. Recent discussion with COSLA and the National Park authorities, and feedback from local forums, has also suggested that the annual joint event could be restructured to a more participatory format. The potential benefits of this approach could include more effective interchange between the different bodies, including greater networking between different local forums, and a more enjoyable event which might help to encourage greater attendance.

### **Draft programme**

4. An outline draft programme for this year's event is attached as an annex. This should be broadly self-explanatory and the key change is a move from a strongly presentation-based format to a greater emphasis on workshops. This draft programme has been circulated to a small number of local access forum chairs for initial feedback and any comments received will be reported at the NAF meeting. Members' comments on this draft would also be very welcome to help establish the broad structure of the event.

### **Location of this year's meeting**

5. This year's event will be the sixth joint meeting of the national and local forums. In chronological order, the previous events took place in Pitlochry, Peebles, Aberdeen, Ayr and Inverness. On this basis a location somewhere in the Central Belt might be favoured, and the west Central Belt would perhaps be particularly appropriate in view of the high concentration of access authorities within this area. Member's views on this would also be very helpful.

**Mark Wrightham**  
**Secretary**

# National Access Forum / local access forums annual joint meeting

10:30 – 16:00: Date tba

Venue tba

Chair: Richard Cooke (Convenor, National Access Forum)

Tea/coffee will be available from 10:15

- |          |   |                            |
|----------|---|----------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Welcome</b><br><i>Richard Cooke (Convenor, National Access Forum)</i>  | 10:30-10:40                |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Keynote presentation: ???</b><br><i>Speaker tba</i>  | 10:40-11:15                |
| <b>3</b> | <b>What's going on in (host access authority)</b><br>Short overview of operation of the local forum and current access issues (positive and negative)...leading into morning workshop session.  | 11:15-11:30                |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Workshops by area</b><br>Participants split into 3-4 broadly geographical groups. Each group to come up with one top tip for LAF operation and one top tip for access management (on a theme of regional importance – some guidance needed to avoid overlap with afternoon session). Alternatives might be to focus more specifically on LAF operation and/or invite more general feedback on an optional basis. Time includes 5 mins to introduce session, 10 mins for reporting back and 5 mins for general milling around!<br><b>Lunch and networking time</b> (including displays from LAFs, access authorities/NGOs, PFAP, SNH Code materials?) | 11:30-12:30<br>12:30-14:00 |
| <b>5</b> | <b>What's going on at the National Access Forum</b><br><i>Mark Wrightham (Secretary, National Access Forum)?</i> Quick summary of current activity and opportunity to highlight work that's currently underway with regard to issues to be discussed at afternoon workshops.  | 14:00-14:20                |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Workshops by theme/issue</b><br>Participants split into 3-4 groups to discuss one of four key issues (selected by LAFs with some NAF oversight/co-ordination). Each group to come up with two top tips/recommendations, supported by good practice examples if appropriate...or more loosely structured/optional feedback . As above, time includes 20 min to introduce session, report back and move around.  | 14:20-15:20                |
| <b>7</b> | <b>General discussion</b><br>Further thoughts and recommendations for LAFs and NAF  | 15:20-16:00                |
|          | <b>Close</b>  | 16:00                      |